

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1596

S.P. 570

In Senate, April 26, 2005

An Act Limiting Clean Election Candidates' Campaign Soliciting

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GAGNON of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative: PATRICK of Rumford.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1052, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Caucus campaign committee. "Caucus campaign committee" means a committee, the principal officers of which are members of the party holding the largest or 2nd-largest number of seats in the Senate or members of the party holding the largest or 2nd-largest number of seats in the House of Representatives, established to support the election of candidates of a party to the respective chambers of the Legislature.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§§2-A and 2-B are enacted to read:

2-A. Political action committee participation prohibited. Except as provided in subsection 2-B, a participating candidate may not solicit contributions or accept money for or otherwise participate in a political action committee, as defined in section 1052, subsection 5, established to influence the election or defeat of legislative candidates or to support that participating candidate's effort to be elected to a legislative leadership position.

2-B. Soliciting contributions for caucus campaign committees permitted. A participating candidate may solicit contributions for a caucus campaign committee, as defined in section 1052, subsection 1-A, if the participating candidate does not solely make expenditures on behalf of the caucus campaign committee.

SUMMARY

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This bill provides for the creation of caucus campaign committees established to support the election of candidates and determine legislative leadership of the 2 major parties in the House of Representatives and the Senate. This bill prohibits a Maine Clean Election Act candidate from participating in political action committees, except that a Maine Clean Election Act candidate may solicit contributions for a caucus campaign committee.